

**126th MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY

Page #	LD (or other)	Notes	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership	Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Polices	Compensation and # mtgs.	Does it Conform to Joint Rules and Council Policy?				Funding Source
											FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	
C1	LD 1703 Unfinished Business (Senate)		EDU	Task Force to Increase College Affordability and the Rate of Degree Completion	Study issues associated with college affordability and degree completion and develop a 10-year statewide economic and policy strategy.	TOTAL: 16 Legis: 7 Sen: 3 House: 4 Chairs: Legislators	January 31, 2015: First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature	Legislative Council	NO RULE: membership maximum 13 RULE: majority legislators RULE: report by November 5 RULE: LC staff conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; 5 meetings	\$ -	\$ 4,875	\$ -	\$ -	MS
C4	LD 1849 Emergency On Study Table		EDU	Commission to Study College Affordability and College Completion	Examine and make recommendations on the development of strategies to keep the cost of public postsecondary education in the State affordable and to increase the graduation rate of students enrolled in state-supported public institutions of higher education.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 House: 3 Chairs: Legislators	December 9, 2014: EDU Committee	UMaine, MCCC and MMA; OPLA to provide drafting assistance	NO RULE: majority legislators RULE: report by November 5	Legislative per diem and expenses (4 meetings)	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	MS
C9	LD 1850 Emergency On Special Appropriations Table		EDU	Commission to Strengthen the Adequacy and Equity of Certain Cost Components of the School Funding Formula	Develop a plan to strengthen the adequacy and equity of certain cost components included in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and other related education statutes.	TOTAL: 18 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 House: 3 Chairs: Legislators	December 9, 2014: EDU Committee	DOE and the Education Research Institute; OPLA to provide drafting assistance	NO RULE: membership maximum 13 RULE: majority legislators RULE: report by November 5	Legislative per diem and expenses; 6 meetings	\$ 1,500	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	MS
C17	LD 1487 Enacted (Part F)	LD 1487 contains 2 studies; see other (funding source APP)	HHS	Task Force to Create Opportunities for Stable Employment for MaineCare Members	Identify any polices in MaineCare that penalize or create a disincentive for members increasing hours of employment or earnings and make recommendations to eliminate any such barriers and propose new policies that support and promote stable and lasting employment.	TOTAL: 8 Legis: 8 Sen: 3 House: 5 Chairs: Legislators	December 8, 2014: HHS Committee	Legislative Council	NO RULE: report by November 5 RULE: LC staff conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ -	\$ 5,250	\$ 750	\$ -	MS
C20	LD 1757 Emergency On Study Table		HHS	Blue Ribbon Commission on Independent Living and Disability	Evaluate the needs of Maine citizens with a disability, examine the State's laws governing access to housing, transportation, public accommodation and education and make recommendations to improve the lives of Maine's citizens with a disability.	TOTAL: 16 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: Legislators	November 5, 2014: HHS Committee	Legislative Council	NO RULE: membership maximum 13 RULE: majority legislators RULE: LC staff conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses (4 meetings)	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	MS
C24	LD 1776 Emergency Unfinished business (Senate)	1776 contains 2 commissions; see other below	HHS	Commission to Continue the Study of Long-Term Care Facilities	Study and determine feasibility of making changes to long-term care system, including: funding and payment methods, regulatory requirements, collaborative agreements, viability of privately owned facilities in rural communities and access to nursing facility services statewide.	TOTAL: 11 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 House: 3 Chairs: Legislators	October 15, 2014: HHS Committee and Blue Ribbon Comsn. on Long-term Care	Legislative Council	NO RULE: majority legislators RULE: LC staff conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses (4 meetings)	\$ 1,250	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	MS

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C28	LD 1776 Emergency Unfinished Business (Senate)	1776 contains 2 commissions; see other above	HHS	Blue Ribbon Commission on Long-Term Care	Review and study the feasibility of developing or amending the State's plan for long-term care and the provision of long-term care services in the community and in facilities.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 7 Sen: 3 House: 4 Chairs: Legislators	November 5, 2014: HHS Committee	Legislative Council	YES	Legislative per diem and expenses (4 meetings)	\$ 1,750	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ -	MS
C32	HP 1136 Authorized First Regular of 126th <i>(currently funded - included for information purposes)</i>	Continuing study	IFS	Maine Health Exchange Advisory Committee	Advise the Legislature regarding the interests of individuals and employers with respect to any health benefit exchange that may be created for the State pursuant to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; serve as liaison between any exchange and those enrolled in it; and evaluate implementation and operation of any exchange.	TOTAL: 20 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 House: 3 Chairs: Legislators	November 5, 2014: IFS Committee	Legislative Council (may contract for admin. and prof. services if funding permits)		Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings annually	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	MS
C37	LD 1458 On Study Table		LCED	Commission to Study Business Format Franchising	Study issues related to the frequency of transfers of franchises in this State from franchisee to a member of the franchisee's family; legal issues raised with state franchise laws; the cancellation, termination and renewal of terms of franchise agreements and the impact of the requirement of reasonableness on terms and provisions of the franchise agreement.	TOTAL: 7 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: Legislators	November 5, 2014: LCRED Committee	Legislative Council	YES	Legislative per diem and expenses (4 meetings)		\$ 2,500			MS
C40	LD 1833 On Study Table		LCRED	Working Group on Improving Protections for Injured Workers Whose Employers Have Wrongfully Not Secured Workers' Compensation Insurance	Working Group to conduct a study on the issue of improving protections for injured workers whose employers have wrongfully not secured workers' compensation insurance, including the prevalence of the problem and potential funding sources to address the problem.	TOTAL: 10 Legis: 2 Sen: 1 House: 1 Chairs: Executive Director of Workers' Comp. Board	February 1, 2015: LCRED Committee	Workers Comp. Board; may request drafting assistance from Legislative Council	NO LC Policy allows exception if only 2 legis members and no other legis resources used Includes LC staff (drafting).	Legislative per diem and expenses (4 meetings)	\$ 500	\$ 500			MS
C43	LD 1754 On Study Table		TAX	Study Group to Evaluate the Payment of Motor Vehicle Excise Tax by Public Utilities	Study and analyze current law regarding the location of payment of motor vehicle excise tax by public utilities compared to other corporations.	TOTAL: 5 Legis: 5 Sen: 3 House: 2 Chairs: House member from TAX Committee	November 5, 2014: TAX Committee	Legislative Council	YES	Legislative per diem and expenses (4 meetings)	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	MS

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C46	LD 1856 Emergency Engrossed (House) Unfinished Business (Senate)	LD 1856 contains 2 studies; see other (funding source APP)	VLA	VLA Committee Meetings Related to the Market Analysis Regarding the Potential for Expanded Gaming in the State	Meetings of the VLA Committee to consider the analysis and report of the consultant contracted with by the Legislative Council to provide an analysis of the potential market for expanded casino-style gaming in the State.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 13 Sen: 10 House: 3 Chairs: Legislators	No report required	Legislative Council	YES	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 7,500				MS
C48	LD 1487 Enacted (Part C)	LD 1487 contains 2 studies; see other (funding source MS)	HHS	OFPR to contract with non-partisan research organization(s) for an Evaluation of the Impact of the MaineCare Expansion and a Health Insurance Marketplace Report	OFPR to contract with a nonpartisan research organization to evaluate the impact of the MaineCare Expansion on state programs and to examine the financial feasibility of providing coverage through a Health Insurance marketplace model.	TOTAL: Legis: Sen: House: Chairs:	February 15, 2015 and February 15, 2016: Research org. reports to AFA, HHS & CJPS Committees; February 15, 2015: OFPR to report to HHS Committee	Legislative Council; OFPR to contract for services	NO RULE: report by November 5		\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -		APP
C52	LD 1578 Unfinished Business (House)		HHS	OFPR to Contract with Non-partisan Research Organization(s) for an Evaluation of the Impact of the MaineCare Expansion and a Health Insurance Marketplace Report	OFPR to contract with a nonpartisan research organization to evaluate the impact of the MaineCare Expansion on state programs and to examine the financial feasibility of providing coverage through a health insurance marketplace model.	TOTAL: Legis: Sen: House: Chairs:	February 15, 2015 and February 15, 2016: Research organization reports to AFA, HHS, CJPS; February 15, 2015: OFPR to report to HHS Committee	Legislative Council; OFPR to contract for services	NO RULE: report by November 5		\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -		APP
C56	LD 1640 Unfinished Business (House) (Part B)		HHS	OFPR to contract with non-partisan research organization(s) for an Evaluation of the Impact of the MaineCare Expansion and a Health Insurance Marketplace Report	OFPR to contract with a nonpartisan research organization to evaluate the impact of the MaineCare Expansion on state programs and to examine the financial feasibility of providing coverage through a Health Insurance marketplace model.	TOTAL: Legis: Sen: House: Chairs:	February 15, 2015 and February 15, 2016: Research organization reports to AFA, HHS, CJPS; February 15, 2015: OFPR to report to HHS Committee	Legislative Council; OFPR to contract for services	NO RULE: report by November 5		\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -		APP
C60	LD 1746 On Special Appropriations Table	On-going task force	MWEP	State Education and Employment Outcomes Task Force	Develop procedures to maintain and disseminate information and data from the Department of Labor's educational outcome database.	TOTAL: 15 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: Legislators	November 1 annually: EDU, LCRED and MWEP Committees	Legislative Council (not during session)	NO On-going task force, not study LC Policy allows up to 2 legislators RULE: LC staff conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings per calendar year	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500		APP

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C65	LD 1765 On Special Appropriations Table		CJPS	Criminal Law Revision Commission	Examine all criminal statutes within the Maine Revised Statutes and the administration of those statutes to assess their clarity and consistency, the proportionality of penalties to offenses and the effectuation of policy objectives. (Title 17-A first)	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: Legislators	Each Second Regular Session: Legislature, CJ Supreme Jud. Court, Crim. Rules Committee & CLAC	Contract for Chief Counsel and support staff; may request support staff from the Legislative Council during legislative interims	NO On-going commission, not study LC Policy allows up to 2 legislators RULE: LC staff conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; 2 meetings annually	\$ -	\$ 158,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	APP
C71	LD 1856 Emergency Engrossed (House Unfinished Business (Senate))	LD 1856 contains 2 studies; see other (funding source MS)	VLA	Legislative Council Contract with a Consulting Firm for Market Analysis Regarding the Potential for Expanded Gaming in the State	The Legislative Council shall contract with a qualified consulting firm to conduct an analysis of the potential market for expanded casino-style gaming in the State.	TOTAL: Legis: Sen: House: Chairs:	September 1, 2014: VLA Committee	Legislative Council to contract with consulting firm			\$ 150,000			APP	
C77	LD 1105 In AFA (carried over from last session)	Continuation; on-going board	AFA	Downtown Revitalization Fund Board	Disburse loans and grants from the fund to encourage business development in downtown areas.	TOTAL: 9 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: Elected by members	No report required	Office of Community Development	NO On-going commission, not study LC Policy allows up to 2 legislators	Legislative per diem and expenses	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	APP
C83	LD 1194 Emergency On Study Table		JUD	Judiciary Committee Study of Social Media Privacy in School and in the Workplace	Study issues about social media and personal e-mail privacy in school and the workplace.	TOTAL: 14 Legis: 14 Sen: 3 House: 11 Chairs: Legislators	November 5, 2014: First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature	Legislative Council	YES	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,750	\$ -	\$ -	OSR
C87	LD 1602 Emergency On Study Table		MAR	Commission to Study the Effects of Ocean Acidification and Its Existing and Potential Effects on Species that are Commercially Harvested and Grown Along the Maine Coast	Study and review existing literature and data on ocean acidification and how it has affected or could potentially affect commercially harvested and grown species along the Maine coast.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 House: 3 Chairs: Legislators	December 5, 2014: MR Committee	Legislative Council	NO RULE: majority legislators RULE: report by November 5 RULE: LC staff conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,750	\$ -	\$ -	OSR
C91	LD 1345 On Special Appropriations Table		IFS	IFS Committee to Hire Consultant to Propose Design Options for Creating a Universal System of Health Care	IFS Committee to solicit services of one or more consultants to propose at least 3 design options, including implementation plans, for creating a universal system of health care in the State.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 13 Sen: 3 House: 10 Chairs: Legislators	December 2, 2015: IFS Committee and Legislature	Legislative Council	NO RULE: report by November 5 RULE: LC staff conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses (4 meetings)	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	OSR

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C98	LD 1819 Finally Passed in House and Senate		EDU	Task Force to End Student Hunger in Maine	Study issues associated with the creation of a public-private partnership to provide expertise to SAUs throughout the State in adopting best practices and maximizing available federal funds for addressing student hunger.	TOTAL: 17 Legis: 7 Sen: 3 House: 4 Chairs: Legislators	December 9, 2014; First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature	Legislative Council	NO RULE: membership maximum 13 RULE: majority legislators RULE: report by November 5 RULE: LC staff conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; 5 meetings	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,875	\$ -	\$ -	OSR
Total Cost of Proposed Studies (All Funds):											\$ 17,250	\$ 758,500	\$ 8,750	\$ 8,000	
Available Studies Budget (General Fund): (Adjusted for previously authorized studies)											\$ 8,795	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
Other Required Funding Sources (Federal & Other Special Revenue):											\$ 6,750	\$ 108,375	\$ -	\$ -	
General Fund Appropriation:											\$ -	\$ 613,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	
Remaining Balance/(Shortfall) Studies Budget (General Fund):											(\$1,705)	(\$27,125)	\$9,250	\$10,000	

* Future budgets will be adjusted to include the cost of studies authorized on an ongoing basis.